

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Twenty-first Middlesex Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.

Residents of Twenty-first Middlesex Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (388) reside in the Twenty-first Middlesex Representative District.¹ **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Twenty-first Middlesex Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 72% were male and 28% were female.
- 64% were between the ages of 21-39.
- 89% were white non-Latino, 4% were black non-Latino, 4% were Latino, and 3% were other racial categories.
- 68% were never married, 13% were married, and 20% reported not to be married now.
- 19% had less than high school education, 56% completed high school, and 24% had more than high school education.
- 43% were employed.
- 6% were homeless.
- 30% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Twenty-first Middlesex Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2002					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	53%	33%	6%	2%	1%
State	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

¹ To protect client confidentiality, statistics representing clients under 17 years of age have been omitted from this fact sheet.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2002							
Twenty-first Middlesex Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	329	280	98	105	84	96	58
FY '96	315	272	95	112	66	106	67
FY '97	294	244	81	64	48	89	71
FY '98	367	275	107	76	31	107	70
FY '99	324	259	100	71	35	100	73
FY '00	352	272	101	73	32	123	80
FY '01	372	269	81	88	47	164	123
FY '02	388	290	101	79	34	143	98